IN THE CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

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47. (Canceled)

48. (Previously Presented) A method for emulating a mouse in providing input to a system which uses a visual display for providing user information and an indicator in the visual display for permitting user control, comprising:

(a) choosing a feature associated with a system user;

(b) determining a location of the feature in a video image from a video camera at an initial time;

(c) determining a subsequent location of the feature in a video image from the video camera at a subsequent given time;

(d) emulating a use of a movement of the mouse to move the indicator in the visual display, by determining the indicator location at the given time based upon a location of the indicator at a previous time, and a change between a location of the feature in the video image at the previous time and the location of the feature in the video image at the given time; and

(e) emulating the use of a click from the mouse to provide an input signal to the system, by providing an input signal in response to the location of the feature in the video image changing by less than a defined amount during a defined period of time.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein in the step of choosing, the feature associated with a system[s] user includes at least a portion of one of ~~a~~ the system user's body, head, face, or article of clothing.

50. (Canceled).

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the system is a computer program.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, wherein:

(a) the input signal provided is selected from a group consisting of letters, numbers, spaces, punctuation marks, other defined characters and signals associated with defined actions to be taken by the system; and

(b) the selection of the input signal is determined by the location of the feature in the video image.

53. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein in the step of choosing, the feature associated with a system user includes at least a portion of one of the system user's head or face.

54. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein:

(a) the input signal provided is selected from a group consisting of letters, numbers, spaces, punctuation marks, other defined characters and signals associated with defined actions to be taken by the system; and

(b) the selection of the input signal is determined by the location of the feature in the video image.

55. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the video images from the video camera are formed by reflection of ambient light from objects in the video camera field of view including reflection from the feature associated with the system user.

56. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the location of the feature in the video image at the given time is determined by correlating greyscale intensities of pixels in trial subimages of the video image at the given time, with greyscale intensities of pixels in a subimage including the chosen feature in the video image at the previous time, and selecting

the trial subimage of the video image at the given time with the highest correlation to the subimage including the chosen feature in the video image at the previous time.

57. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein the location of the feature in the video image at the given time is determined by correlating greyscale intensities of pixels in trial subimages of the video image at the given time, with greyscale intensities of pixels in a subimage including the chosen feature in the video image at the previous time, and selecting the trial subimage of the video image at the given time with the highest correlation to the subimage including the chosen feature in the video image at the previous time.